

***Polystichum aleuticum* from Adak Island, Alaska, a Second Locality for the Species:**—Field work conducted by E. Hultén and W. J. Eyerdam in 1932 along the Aleutian Island chain resulted in many vascular plant collections reported in the *Flora of the Aleutian Islands* (Hultén 1937; ed. 2, 1960). *Polystichum aleuticum* C. Chr. in Hultén (Svensk Bot. Tidskr. 30:515, 1936) was collected by Eyerdam from Atka Island in the Central Aleutians. Until now, Eyerdam's collection has represented the only known occurrence of the species (Wagner, *Pteridologia* 1:1-64, 1979). It certainly must rank among the most restricted and rarest ferns of North America.

In 1975, while collecting bryophytes on Adak Island, I discovered a substantial population of this rare Aleutian fern. The specimens were examined and annotated by Wagner (ORE), who has indicated that they compare favorably with type materials. Specimens have been deposited in several herbaria: Alaska, Aleutian Islands, Adak Island, Mt. Reed, rock ledges below summit, 51°49'N, 176°44'W, 400 m, 19 Sept 1975, D. K. Smith UT-54678 (ALA, ORE, TENN).

Christensen (in Hultén, Svensk Bot. Tidskr. 30:515-528, 1936; Amer. Fern J. 28:110-113, 1938) suggested a strong relationship exists among *P. aleuticum*, Himalayan *P. prescottianum* (Wall.) Moore, western and central Chinese species *P. shensiense* Christ, *P. sinense* Christ, *P. moupinense* (Franch.) Bedd, and *P. lachnense* (Hook.) Bedd. He noted, however, it is distinctive by "... its peculiar erose-dentate, greenish flat indusia and ... castaneous, thick stipes of older leaves ...." Christensen further noted that the only substantial difference between *P. lachnense* and *P. aleuticum* was the entire scales (vs. dentate scales) of the latter. Careful examination of the scales of Adak materials reveals that the scale margins are quite denticulate to shortly ciliate. Further studies are needed to clarify the relationship of the Aleutian fern to its Himalayan-Chinese counterparts.

Contributions from the Botanical Laboratory, University of Tennessee, n.s. No. 558.—DAVID K. SMITH, Department of Botany, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1100.